



Blake Trask, Chair
 Craig Benjamin, Vice Chair
 Max Hepp-Buchanan, Secretary
 Ann Boyd
 Evan Brown
 Allegra Calder
 Matthew Crane
 Sean Cryan
 Gabe Grijalva
 Kelsey Jones-Casey
 Neal Komedal
 Jean White

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: April 7, 2010/6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Chair: Blake Trask
Recorder: Neal Komedal
Location: Seattle City Hall, L204

April Meeting Minutes Distribution List:

Michael McGinn, Mayor, City of Seattle
 Rebecca Deehr, Strategic Advisor for Policy and Outreach, Office of the Mayor
 Peter Hahn, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)
 Sam Woods, Manager, Bicycle, Pedestrian & Neighborhood Program & Project Development, SDOT
 Diane Sugimura, Director, Department of Planning and Development (DPD)
 Stella Chao, Director, Department of Neighborhoods (DoN)
 Doug Cox, Assistant Transportation Planner, SDOT Liaison
 Eric Widstrand, Traffic Operations Manager, SDOT
 Meeting Presenters: Jeff Bender, SDOT; Daniel Rowe and Jennifer Gregerson, University of Washington Department of Urban Design and Planning
 City of Seattle Council Transportation Committee Members
 City of Seattle Neighborhood District Coordinators
 Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board (SBAB) Board Members

Members Present:

Ann Boyd; Craig Benjamin (Vice Chair); Allegra Calder; Matthew Crane; Sean Cryan; Gabe Grijalva; Max Hepp-Buchanan (Secretary); Neal Komedal; Blake Trask (Chair); Jean White

Members Absent:

Evan Brown; Kelsey Jones-Casey

Guests:

Ann Sutphin, SDOT; Josh Cohen, Publicola; Daniel Rowe, UW Department of Urban Design and Planning; Jennifer Gregerson, UW Department of Urban Design and Planning; Paul Andrews, BikeIntelligencer.com; Michael Snyder, Seattle Likes Bikes; Aili LePard; Howard Wu

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Craig Benjamin

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the city on matters related to bicycling, and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon bicycling; and shall have opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning processes insofar as they relate to bicycling.

-City Council
 Resolution 25534

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Aili Lepard spoke of her interest and concern about the SR 99 King St. to Holgate St. project, specifically the bicycle facility design
 - Jean White expressed her appreciation for completion of the first contract of the Ship Canal Trail phase 2 extension, which runs parallel to Nickerson Street. Other meeting attendees seconded her endorsement and pointed out how quickly the trail became popular with users
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PRESENTATIONS

Time: 6:10 p.m.

Topic: NE 45th Street Transit Corridor Improvement Project

Presenter: Jeff Bender, SDOT

Purpose: Update the Board on the NE 45th Street Transit Improvements

Findings / Critical Points:

- One of several recent corridor improvement projects using funds from the Bridge the Gap Program
- Corridor pertains to Metro Route #44, an electric trolley. The Project goal is to increase trip speed on the route by 10 or 20 percent
- In a program, which has now been discontinued, Metro awarded increased service hours to communities which were able to improve ride times
- The project produced a brochure for outreach to the constituents. Mr. Bender estimated the design of the project is 30 percent complete. He projected 60 percent completion by June, and 90 percent by the end of the year
- Construction is tentatively scheduled for 2011-2015, and will use funding from state and local grants
- Improvements will include 'bus bulbs' (similar to those on Pine St.), 'queue jumps', parking removal, signal priority, and stop consolidation. There is a draft concept for a transit queue jump lane at N. Midvale Pl.
- Another proposed change would be eliminating left turns off of NE 45th St. between Roosevelt Way NE and University Way NE. A transit/right turn lane is planned for 24th and Market in Ballard
- The project has an advisory panel, which meets monthly. They have also met with neighborhood groups and the Freight Mobility Advisory Committee

SBAB Comments:

- The Board thanks Mr. Bender for presenting at the meeting and SDOT staff are welcome to present developments on this topic at future meetings

Action Item or Follow Up:

- SBAB will explore the development of a focus group to follow up on the project with SDOT
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Time: 6:40 p.m.

Topic: Seattle Bike-Share Feasibility Study

Presenter: Daniel Rowe and Jennifer Gregerson, UW Dept of Urban Design and Planning

Purpose: Give an overview of the study and its findings

Findings / Critical Points:

- This study was contracted by SDOT. It was conducted by a studio of UW graduate students beginning in January of this year
- Bikeshare programs are seen as a way to complete the last part of a public transit trip
- The group reviewed the relevant literature, demand analysis, system elements, and City of Seattle Municipal policies and plans that may be impacted by bike-share in Seattle
- To analyze the demand for bikesharing, the study identified twelve indicators, then used GIS mapping to assign weighted sum aggregate scores to 10x10m cells throughout the city. The template for bikeshare system boundaries called for contiguous areas with a roughly square or circular shape, rather than areas following a transit corridor
- There are three proposed implementation areas. Phase 1, approximately 4 square miles. Might be called the greater downtown area described by the waterfront, Roy St., 15th Ave., and S. Lander St. Phase 2 adds another 14 square miles in the University District, Ballard, Greenlake, Capitol Hill, and North Beacon Hill. Phase 3 identifies neighborhoods with high scores: Northgate, Bitter Lake, Lake City, West Seattle 'Junction', Columbia City, Rainier Beach, and Othello-New Holly
- The estimates include 50-70 stations for Phase 1, 80-90 for Phase 2, and 20-30 for Phase 3. The total number of bicycles recommended is 2300-2630
- There were variables with unknown impacts, for example, part of the demand estimate used European cities with bikeshare programs. Seattle's car ownership rates are 50-300 percent higher than in Europe
- Jennifer Gregerson explained some policy issues related to the program. None of the European cities in the study has a helmet law. The programs feature a lot of advertising. Seattle would have to do a lot of legal review to simplify the permitting process
- Bikesharing stations should be treated as parking pay stations. Their location should be coordinated with Sound Transit and King County Metro, as well as employers with Commuter Trip Reduction programs. Another important element in designing the stations is pedestrian traffic and the Pedestrian Master Plan. The stations could be fixed or modular, permanent or intermittent. Membership could be based on yearly, monthly or daily options
- The study concluded that there is a demand in Seattle for a bike-sharing program. The complete study can be found at www.seattlebikeshare.org

SBAB Comments:

- The Board thanks the UW student project team for their work and their presentation
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Time 7:40 PM

Topic: Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Updates

Presenters: Doug Cox and Sam Woods, SDOT

Purpose: Update Bicycle Master Plan Implementation

Findings / Critical Points:

- Two sections of new bike facilities have been completed, on 3rd Ave. and Alaskan Way S. between Martin Luther King Jr. Way S. and Rainier Ave S.
- The proposed buffered bike lane on 7th Ave. was well received at a meeting of the Downtown Seattle Association. A second buffered bike lane, on N. 130th St. from Greenwood Ave N. to Linden Ave N., will be constructed in June

- Two other facilities, on Roosevelt Way NE from N. 75th St. to N. 115th St., and on 15th Ave S., from S. Columbia Way to Swift Ave S., are being discussed with community groups
- The proposed rechannelization on 23rd Ave. S. from Rainier Ave. S. to Yesler Way will be done in connection with a paving project
- At 12th Ave. S. and S. Charles (the south end of the Dr. Jose Rizal Bridge), a new crossing signal has been installed. The new crosswalk will be opened when seismic work on the bridge is completed
- It is likely there will be a change to one-way bike traffic on the Ballard Bridge, at least during the time it is being painted
- In the first three months of 2010, 140 bike-rack spaces have been installed. The goal for the year is 350 spaces. On-street bike-rack installation has been somewhat modified. In some locations, business owners object to them. Other businesses, fortunately, are requesting them
- The on-street bike racks will be installed on Ballard Ave (near the Sunday Market), NW Ballard Way (Maritime Pacific Brewery), Capitol Hill (NW Film Forum), Town Hall, and R&E Cycles (replacing an on-street bike rack installed in the early 1980s)

SBAB Comments:

- The board thanks Doug Cox and Sam Woods for their presentation and for their work in implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan

Time: 7:55 PM

Topic: Committee and/or Board Member Updates

Presenters: SBAB Members

Purpose: Provide updates on Committee meetings attended by SBAB members

Findings / Critical Points:

- UW Rainier Vista Improvement Project
 - The committee proposed a letter offering the Board's recommendations to the UW Capital Projects Office. The Board agreed it should be approved and sent as soon as possible. The next step in the project would be Sound Transit Board approval
- South Viaduct Corridor Modifications
 - Several SBAB members met with representatives of WDOT, SDOT, and the Port of Seattle to learn about proposed changes for the 'King to Holgate' section of the SR 99 tunnel project. The discussion focused on the conflict of freight traffic from the Port's Terminal 46, train switching by BNSF, and north-south bicycle traffic on E. Marginal Way
 - The board needs to continue to seek engagements with this project, and to develop questions for the project managers
- Freight-Pedestrian-Bike Ad Hoc Committee
 - The committee met with SDOT Director Peter Hahn. He gave updates on upcoming bid packages, paving projects, and the Mercer West 2010 schedule
 - Barbara Gray and Eric Tweit discussed the FOLK Park/Lake to Bay Loop concept and schedule, and the relation to W. Mercer Place
 - Kit Loo explained the project description and schedule for the Thomas St. Overpass. It will link lower Queen Anne with Myrtle Edwards Park. The design will span Elliot Ave and the BNSF tracks, but the bridge will be only 6 feet wide

- There are many closures scheduled to take place soon. The most drastic is the permanent closure of the South Park Bridge. Others concern work on Spokane St, Mercer West, and the Waterfront
- The Lake to Bay Trail, FOLK Park, and the Thomas St. Overpass are projects directly related to cycling in Seattle. SBAB should have a role in reviewing their design

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- Craig Benjamin adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.